

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
16401 Paramount Boulevard
Paramount, California
December 6, 2017**

President Pineda called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

PRESENT: President Jhonny Pineda, City of Huntington Park
First Vice President Fernando Dutra, City of Whittier
Second Vice President Leonard Shryock, City of Norwalk
Immediate Past President Al Austin, City of Long Beach
Member Tony Lima, City of Artesia
Member Ali Saleh, City of Bell
Member Pedro Aceituno, City of Bell Gardens
Member Raymond Dunton, City of Bellflower
Member Oralia Rebollo, City of Commerce
Member Emma Sharif, City of Compton
Member Christian Hernandez, City of Cudahy
Member Alex Saab, City of Downey
Member Reynaldo Rodriguez, City of Hawaiian Gardens
Member John Lewis, City of La Mirada
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood
Member Roberto Uranga, City of Long Beach
Member Joaquin Lanuza, City of Maywood
Member Vanessa Delgado, City of Montebello
Member Diane J. Martinez, City of Paramount
Member Brent Tercero, City of Pico Rivera
Member Joe Angel Zamora, City of Santa Fe Springs
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member Maria Davila, City of South Gate
Member Herlinda Chico, Office of Supervisor Janice Hahn
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, Port of Long Beach (ex officio)

ABSENT: Member Cinde MacGugan Cassidy, City of Avalon
Member Naresh Solanki, City of Cerritos
Member Mark D. Radecki, City of Industry
Member Edwin Hernandez, City of Lynwood
Member William Davis, City of Vernon
Member Joseph Martinez, Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis
Member David Riccitiello, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Whittier City Manager Jeff Collier, Chair, City Managers Steering Committee; Commerce City Administrator Edgar Cisneros; La Mirada Director of Public Works Mark Stowell; Long Beach Manager of Government Affairs Diana Tang; Vernon Director of Public Works Dan Wall; Lance Grindle, Principal Engineer, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works; Victor Chen, GIS Specialist, Internal Services Department, County of Los Angeles; Satya Choday, GIS Section Manager, Internal Services Department, County of Los Angeles; Alexander Ruiz, Internal Services Department, County of Los Angeles; Durga Niraula, Internal Services Department, County of Los Angeles; Nina Turner, Local/Regional Government Relations Liaison, Port of Long Beach; Sharon Weissman, Board Deputy, Office of Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia; David Frownfelter, Intern, Office of Senator Ricardo Lara; Julia Brown, Community Relations Manager, Metro; Meredith Berkson, Regional Director, PATH; Kristine Guerrero, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities; Carlos Moran, Senior Director, Tree People; Lizette Ruiz, SELA Regional Coordinator, Tree People; Cristina Basurto, SELAO Regional Manager, Tree People; Steve Forster, Senior Vice President, Infrastructure Engineers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Deputy General Counsel Ivy Tsai; Kekoa Anderson, GCCOG Consultant Engineer; Nancy Pfeffer, GCCOG Director of Regional Planning; Karen Heit, GCCOG Transportation Analyst.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Aceituno.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

There were no public comments.

There were no matters from staff.

It was moved by Member Lima, seconded by First Vice President Dutra, to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved unanimously.

Victor Chen, GIS Specialist, Internal Services Department, County of Los Angeles, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the County's program for Local Updates of Census Addresses (LUCA), which he said offers cities the opportunity to review and update residential addresses in order to assure an accurate count in the 2020 Census. He said cities are not required to participate, but the state offers a grant amount of a minimum of \$7,500 to cities that register with the County as a LUCA city. Mr. Chen said there is a registration deadline of December 15, 2017, and that so far 80 of the 88 cities in the county had registered. He said the GIS staff was there to help any city that has not yet registered.

Member Wilson asked Mr. Chen to identify any Gateway cities that had not yet registered because their COG Board representative may not be aware. Mr. Chen responded that only Cudahy and Industry had not yet registered.

Carlos Moran, Senior Director of Programs, Tree People, gave a PowerPoint presentation on his organization's greening programs in the Gateway Cities area. He said that, even though they do plant trees, their focus is on people and the benefits of urban forestation such as improved public health and mitigating climate change. He referred the Board to their recent Tree Canopy Expansion project in Huntington Park and Cudahy. He said the Tree People will be submitting a proposal to do tree planting along the I-5 corridor and other projects and would appreciate the support of the Gateway cities.

It was moved by First Vice President Dutra, seconded by Member Sharif, to receive and file the reports from the County of Los Angeles and the Tree People. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Pineda summarized the recruitment process for the Executive Director position that followed the retirement of former Executive Director Richard Powers and reviewed how the Executive Committee had approved the recommendation of the Recruitment Committee to recommend that the Board authorize the hiring of Nancy Pfeffer as Executive Director effective as of January 1, 2018.

It was moved by Member DuBois, seconded by Member Chico, to approve the Employment Agreement with Nancy Pfeffer to serve as the COG Executive Director. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. Pfeffer addressed the Board, saying she was grateful for the opportunity to serve as Executive Director and that she was excited to bring her experiences to the COG.

Nancy Pfeffer presented a report recommending that the Board approve a joint application with the Institute of Local Government for Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) grant funds in the amount of \$250,000 from the State's Strategic Growth Council. She said the funds would be used to work directly with COG cities to identify projects that could be eligible for funding under the TCC implementation program or other cap and trade funds.

It was moved by Member Dunton, seconded by Member Wilson, to approve the joint application with the Institute for Local Government for Transformative Climate Communities grant funds. The motion was approved unanimously.

Kekoa Anderson presented a report from the Conservancy Committee. He said the Lower Los Angeles River Working Group would be holding its twentieth community workshop tomorrow in Cudahy. He said the next meeting would be held in Lynwood. He said the Conservancy Board would be considering the Tier 2 SB 1 grant applications in February.

Kekoa Anderson presented a report from the I-710 EIR/EIS Project Committee. He referred the Board to a handout which contained a graphic diagram on the major milestones in the selection of a Locally Preferred Alternative for the I-710 freeway corridor. He said there was a meeting of the I-710 Project Committee scheduled for the 14th of the month.

Member Davila said the changing of meeting dates for the Project Committee contributes to the lack of a quorum that they have been experiencing.

Kekoa Anderson presented a report from the SR-91/I-605/I-405 Corridor Cities Committee. He said the Aesthetics Committee for the I-605 corridor would be kicking its efforts at the January 9th meeting of the Gateway Cities Planning Directors.

Sharon Weissman presented a report from the Transportation Committee. She said the Metro Board had approved a Parking Management program and will be moving towards a system of charging for parking by use of tap cards in lots that reach more than 70% of capacity. She said lots in Norwalk, Lakewood, and Long Beach would be affected. She said an agreement had been reached with Caltrans to release the Norwalk and Lakewood lots to Metro.

Ms. Weissman reported that the Eco Rapid Transit project is on the list of projects to be completed by 2028 which will be coming to the Metro Board in January. She said the COG Transportation Committee would be moving to a new meeting format in January which will allow for more time to discuss issues.

Meredith Berkson presented a report from PATH. She reported that 1,959 households have moved off of the streets since the start of the Gateway Connections program. She said the program has a 91% success rate in keeping the program participants permanently off the streets. She said PATH is working with the Alameda Corridor Authority regarding homeless encampments in the corridor. She reported on the Hepatitis A vaccination program and said PATH is looking for cold weather shelter sites.

Nancy Pfeffer referred the Board to a handout which outlined the Climate Action Plan (CAP) framework. She introduced Stephanie Cadena, a resident of Gateway Cities, as the new CivicSpark Fellow working on the COG's CAP framework project.

It was moved by Member Saleh, seconded by Member Uranga, to receive and file the committee reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no report from the I-5 Consortium Cities JPA.

Kristine Guerrero presented a report from the League of California Cities. She said the League is actively working to preserve the SALT deduction for federal taxes. She said there is a bi-partisan proposal in the conference committee to preserve SALT. She asked for names of supporters for this effort to present to Senator Harris.

There was no report from SCAG.

Karen Heit presented a report from Eco-Rapid Transit. She said the Metro funded environmental study is now underway.

There was no report from the South Coast AQMD.

There was no report from the Metro Gateway Cities Service Sector Council.

It was moved by Member Dunton, seconded by Member Lima, to receive and file the agency reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

There were no matters from the Board of Directors.

President Austin announced that he had appointed Immediate Past President Austin to the Transportation Committee. He said he was working on a plan to hold a retreat in the City of Avalon.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.